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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/737,272	12/15/2003	Koenraad F. Van Schuylenbergh	D/A3601	6190

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EXAMINER

GILMAN, ALEXANDER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2833

DATE MAILED: 11/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/737,272	Applicant(s) VAN SCHUYLENBERGH ET AL.	
	Examiner Alexander D Gilman	Art Unit 2833	<i>Am</i>

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 15-25 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 26 and 27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14, 28 and 29 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 September 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected. objected to because of the following informalities:

Laim 1, lines 7-10 recites "...a spring tip coupled to a second end of the release portion, the spring tip oriented where a direction of maximal curvature of the spring tip [when projected into the substrate plane'?] lies in a plane approximately perpendicular to the release line"

The phrase is unclear.

It was interpreted, for purposes of examination, that vector of the spring curve at the spring tip is located in a plane perpendicular to the release line.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 26, 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Smith et al.

With regard to claim 26, Smith et al (US 5,914,218) disclose (Fig. 6) an electrical interconnect comprising.

an anchor portion (12); and,

a spring (11) coupled to the anchor portion, the spring including an aperture (Fig. 21)

in the spring, the largest dimension of the aperture (in direction of the longitudinal axis of the interconnect) exceeding 50% of the width of the spring.

With regard to claim 27, Smith et al (US 5,914,218) inherently disclose that the width of the aperture is at least 0.05 micrometer 9since the typical width of the spring contact is 10-100 Mu (For example US 6,439,898).

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Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 15-25 are allowed.

Claims 1-14 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objection set forth in this Office action.

Claims 27, 28 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

No prior art has been found to anticipate or render obvious the presently claimed subject matter.

Specifically, none of the prior art of record discloses the combination of the limitations presented including,

the release portion including at least one in-plane curve, the release portion further including a release line where an uplift portion of the release portion begins to curve out of the plane of the substrate (claims 1-14);

a flexible stressed metal forming a release portion coupled to the anchor portion, the release portion including at least one in-plane curved section, the release portion also including an uplift portion such that the total of angles subtended by all in-plane curves in the uplift portion is approximately zero degrees (claims 15-25)

the width of the aperture exceeds the average width of the spring (claim 28).

the first flexible supports on a first side of the aperture, the first flexible support having a width less than 40% of the average width of the spring, and, a second flexible support on a second side of the aperture, the second flexible support having a width less than 40% of the average width of the spring (claim 29)..

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander D Gilman whose telephone number is 571 272-2004. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on 571 272-2800 ext. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

11/09/2004

Handwritten signature of Alex Gilman in black ink.

ALEXANDER GILMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER